

Petty Sessions Courts (Ireland) Bill.

ARRANGEMENT OF CLAUSES.

Clauses.

1. Election of union justices.
2. Mode of election.
3. Persons entitled to vote.
4. Person elected to be justice of the peace.
5. To be approved of by Lord Chancellor.
6. New election if Lord Chancellor disapproves.
7. Justice to hold office for five years, and to be removable by Lord Chancellor.
8. Vacancies to be filled by new election.
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B I L L

FOR

The better Administration of Justice at Petty Sessions Courts A.D. 1875.
in Ireland.

WHEREAS it is expedient to make further provision for Presiding
the participation of elected magistrates in the administra-
tion of justice in Ireland:

Be it therefore enacted by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty,
5 by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and
Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and
by the authority of the same, as follows:

1. On the *first day of November* next the ratepayers of each
and every poor law union in Ireland shall elect, in manner herein-
10 mentioned, a fit and proper person to fill the office of union
justice for the same union. Election of
union jus-
tices.

2. The election shall be ballot, and shall be held by the chairman, Mode of
election.
or in his absence the vice-chairman of the board of guardians, or
in the absence of both, by such other person as the board of guar-
15 dians may appoint; it shall take place in the board room or some
other room of the building in which the board of guardians
usually meet, and all the provisions of the Ballot Act relating to
municipal elections shall apply to elections under this Act.

3. The persons entitled to vote at such election shall be the Persons
entitled to
vote.
same persons as those entitled to vote at the election of poor law
guardians in the several electoral districts.

4. The person so elected to be union justice, upon being approved Person
elected to
be justice of
the peace.
of as herein-after mentioned, and upon taking the oaths required
by law, shall have and exercise all the powers and privileges of a
25 justice of the peace for each and every county in which any part of
the union for which he is elected is situated.

5. Immediately after the election the person acting as returning To be ap-
proved of
by Lord
Chancellor.
officer shall transmit to the Lord Chancellor of Ireland the name
(Bill 128.) A

A.D. 1875. — of the person so elected, and if the Lord Chancellor shall approve of him he shall cause the usual authority to be given for the administration of the oaths required by law to be taken by justices of the peace.

New election
if Lord
Chancellor
disapproves.

6. It shall be lawful for the Lord Chancellor, within one month after the name is transmitted to him, to disapprove of such election, and to notify such disapproval to the chairman of the board of guardians, and thereupon the chairman, or in his absence the vice-chairman, or in the absence of both some other person appointed by the board of guardians shall, within one fortnight, proceed to hold a new election, giving one week's notice of same, and the ratepayers shall then proceed in manner before mentioned to elect some other person to be submitted in like manner to the Lord Chancellor, and all the provisions herein enacted relating to the first election and the person elected shall apply to any subsequent election.

Justices to
hold office
for five years,
and to be
removable
by Lord
Chancellor.

7. The person so elected shall continue to hold office for five years and no longer, and so long as he continues to hold such office his name shall be included in every commission of the peace to be issued for the county in which he is entitled to act as justice : Provided always, that it shall be lawful for the Lord Chancellor to remove such person from the commission of the peace in the same manner to all intents and purposes as any other justice may be removed, and upon such removal his office of union justice shall be deemed to be vacant.

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Vacancies to
be filled by
new election.

8. Whenever a vacancy shall take place in the office of union justice by the death, incapacity, resignation, or removal of such union justice, or by the efflux of time, the chairman, or in his absence the vice-chairman of the board of guardians shall, within one month after such vacancy, proceed to hold a new election of a person to fill such office, giving one week's notice of same, and every such election and the person elected thereto shall be subject in all respects to the same rules, regulations, and provisions as are herein-before enacted with reference to the first election under this Act.

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Powers of
Lord Chan-
cellor may be
exercised by
persons
having cus-
tody of Great
Seal.

9. All the powers and duties conferred herein upon the Lord Chancellor of Ireland shall and may be exercised by the Lord Keeper, Lords Commissioners, or other person or persons having at any time the custody of the Great Seal.

The clerk of
the union to
audit in
carrying out
the Act.

10. The clerk of each union to get the sum of five pounds for conducting each election, and the poor rate collectors one pound each for assisting said clerk.

11. The expenses incurred by the returning officer in carrying out any election under this Act shall be defrayed by the board of guardians out of the rates of the union at large.

12. This Act may for all purposes be cited as the Union Justices 5 (Ireland) Act, 1875.

Election
expenses to
be paid out
of rates of
union.
Short title
of Act.

Petty Sessions Courts
(Ireland).
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For the better Administration of Justice
at Petty Sessions Courts in Ireland.

(Prepared and brought in by
Mr. O'Sullivan, Captain Nolte, Mr. French,
and Mr. Royston.)

Ordered, by the Houses of Commons, to be Printed,
22 April 1875.
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[Bill 138]
Under 1 a.